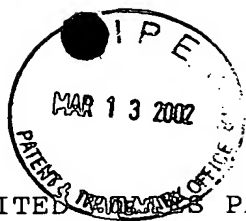


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR PATENT

OF: Masaaki HARASAWA et al.

| ART UNIT: 2839

USSN: 10/017,983

| CONFIRMATION NO.: 8381

FILED: December 13, 2001

|

FOR: Electric Connector

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20231

March 5, 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

- 1) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 applicants enclose a Second Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the reference listed thereon.
- 2) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above identified application.
- 3) Reference AC is accompanied by an English Abstract. Therefore, no discussion of the reference is required. Also note that there might be a corresponding pending U.S. patent application of IBM Corp.
- 4) Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider all references of record, return an initialled copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and ensure that all references of record are printed on any patent issuing from this application.